

REMARKS

This Office Action Response is submitted in reply to the Office Action mailed on October 17, 2006. Claim 1 has been amended herein to incorporate the limitations of claim 4, and claim 9 has been amended herein to incorporate the limitations of claim 11. Claims 4 and 11 have been canceled, and claims 5, 12, 13, and 17 have also been amended to reflect the proper dependency. Claims 20-23 have been canceled.

35 USC §103 Rejection of the Claims

Claims 1-3 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Patel et al. (U.S. Patent No.5,353,426) in view of Fleck et al. (U.S. Patent No.6,085,315). Claims 6, and 7 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Patel et al. (U.S. Patent No.5,353,426) in view of Fleck et al. (U.S. Patent No.6,085,315) as applied to claim 1 and further in view of Uesugi (U.S. Patent No. 6,154,814). Claims 9, 10, 18, 19, and 20-23 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jouppi (U.S. Patent No.5,958,040) in view of Bobick et al. (U.S. Patent No.6,535,583).

In view of the amendments to the claims herein, it is believed that the rejections are now moot, and all remaining claims are presently in a condition for allowance.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 4, 5, 8, and 11-17 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. As indicated, above, claim 1 has been amended herein to incorporate the limitations of claim 4, and claim 9 has been amended herein to incorporate the limitations of claim 11. Claims 4 and 11 have been canceled, and claims 5, 12, 13, and 17 have also been amended to reflect the proper dependency. Claims 20-23 have been canceled. It is therefore believed that the claims are now in a condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

Assignee respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned attorney at (303) 800-4316 to facilitate prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 19 day of March, 2007.

Kyrstin Ryan
Name

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